

JULY MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

PRIMARY SCHOOL – submitted by Lori Casey, Principal

- We had no turnover in teaching positions this year. We have one new Early Childhood teacher due to a retirement and she was a student teacher with us all year last year.
- Last year the Primary staff embraced a theme of “Team Primary.” We did sports-related activities with the students and staff throughout the year. This year the theme is Under the SEAS (Successfully Educating All Students). Adopting a school-wide theme promotes unity among the Kindergarten and Early Childhood staff and makes it fun for the students.
- In May every Primary student planted a flower donated by local nurseries and businesses in the front of the school. The result has been a beautiful garden of colorful annual and perennial flowers which is maintained by parents from our Family School Partnership.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS – Submitted by Dr. Ken Hyllberg and David Brown, Principals

Student Achievement:

- Dr. Ken Hyllberg and David Brown attended the NWEA Summer Conference in Portland, Oregon at the end of June. This training opportunity helped to reinforce concepts learned from previous experiences with Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and also provided additional opportunities for future planning as we continue to refine our use of data to improve student achievement at the Elementary Schools.

Internal Learning Community:

- Our facilities are getting ready for students as we get closer to the start of school in August. Projects underway include: painting of the hallways, classrooms, and office, as well as the installation of new shelving in the classrooms. We thank the Operations and Facilities Department for their dedication to getting the job done!
- With our new principal, David Brown, as well as our new assistant principal for East and West, Kristi Blasius, we are building a strong leadership team at Elementary.
- Principals and school secretaries are monitoring the enrollment and class sizes for the 2009-2010 school year. The latest student enrollment data at Elementary East and West is as follows:

	East Enrollment	West Enrollment
Grade 1	332	356
Grade 2	332	374
Grade 3	352	345
ISEC	40	26
Total	1056	1101

External Learning Community:

- Throughout the month of July, parents have been tending the Elementary West Harvest Garden. The garden will be ready for harvesting in the fall.
- The Elementary East playground was unveiled to the public on Saturday, July 25th. Thanks to the playground committee for all their efforts!

Fiscal Responsibility:

- Hiring teachers for the 2009-2010 school year will be concluded by the first week of August. Currently we are working to fill one 3rd grade and one Physical Education teaching position at Elementary East.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL – submitted by Dr. Kent Ashton, Principal and Ana Fuhrer, Associate Principal

Student Achievement:

- School Improvement - Our School Improvement Leaders and Team Leaders met at the end of June to reflect on the 2008-2009 school year and look ahead to the upcoming school year.

Internal/External Community:

- Staff Climate & Culture - As our west side assistant principal, Mr. Kevin Simmons, moved on to his new position of principal in a neighboring district, we found ourselves searching for a qualified candidate to take his place. We are pleased to introduce Mr. Bill Sims who comes to Woodland with extensive grade level experience and strong leadership skills, and he will be a valued asset to our administrative team.

Facilities:

- The sidewalk concrete has been repaired and additional security cameras are in the process of being installed. Our custodians and maintenance staff have been very busy with painting, cleaning, moving furniture, and completing other tasks to prepare the building for the new school year. We fully anticipate being ready for staff and students in mid-August thanks to their hard work.

MIDDLE SCHOOL – submitted by Scott Snyder, Principal
Internal Community

- *Hiring for FY10* – An update of our vacancies and current status follows below:

Position	Reason for Vacancy	Progress Update
8 th Grade Math	Retirement	Filled – Brian Becker
8 th Grade Math	Leave of Absence	Filled – Kristen Rudnick
8 th Grade L.A.	Resignation	Filled – Nicole Smith
Media Center Director	Resignation	Filled – Andrea Perrin
7 th Grade Math	Resignation	Interviews Completed
Secretary	Resignation	Posted Internally-Interviews scheduled asap.
Art	Leave of Absence	Assessing the need whether or not to fill

- *Student Schedules* –The assistant principals will finalize last minute schedule details so that student schedules are ready for the Proof of Residency Event. Currently, we have received 26 new students in grades six through eight from our registrar’s office. We have only received notification of a very small number of students leaving WMS. We can place the new students in slots vacated by students who have withdrawn and minimize impact on class sizes.

Student Achievement

- *WMS Mission/Vision* - While at the National Middle School Association’s Institute for Middle Level Leadership, we utilized some time during the conference to meet with an NMSA staff member/consultant to assist us in formulating an action plan towards formulating our school’s mission and vision. Additionally, I facilitated a sharing session on developing school mission/vision during which we got some ideas from other schools who have been through the process. We will begin our process during the Institute days in August.
- *ASP Programs* – We have identified students who qualify for our Academic Support Programs in reading and mathematics and have scheduled them into the appropriate class(es). Students qualify for the programs based upon a combination of their performance on last year’s ISAT and MAP tests and classroom performance / teacher recommendation. A letter regarding the program(s) will accompany the student’s schedule that parents will receive at Proof of Residency.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY – submitted by Dr. Anne Swanson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability

NCLB

During planning conference, we will work on the District Improvement Plan (DIP) and the School Improvement Plans (SIP).

Dates for FY10 ISAT are: 3/2 – 3/12

MAP/Assessment

Testing dates for FY10 MAP are:

9/16 – 10/02 (Grades 2-8 in math and reading)

1/11 – 1/15 (Grades 4-5 reading, special education Grades 6-8)

4/13 – 4/28 (Grades 2-8 in math and reading)

Testing dates for FY10 OLSAT are:

1/25 – 1/29 (Grades 1 and 2, verbal and non-verbal cognitive testing)

Staff Development

Summer curriculum writing and realignment are underway in the following areas:

- Writing
- Middle School Art
- Trailblazers item analysis for ISAT and computation
- Challenge Math grades 3 and 4 (new programs this past year)
- Progress Monitoring assessments for Tier 2 interventions
- Geometry
- Middle School language arts review if exit outcomes
- Pacing in language arts for grades 4 and 5
- Adjustments to ESL curriculum in grades 4 and 5
- Elementary music (adjustments for new schedule)

Title II funds will be used to pay teachers for this work.

Curriculum

Steve Thomas and I attended the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) in Washington DC at the end of June. Steve will supervise the technology adoption next year in conjunction with the technology purchases with the **AARA** and Title I money.

ESL/Bilingual

Placement testing is ongoing throughout the summer for kindergarten students who may need ESL or bilingual services.

We have been actively engaged in improving our delivery models for ESL services.

These are the changes for FY10 that are in place:

- Full day kindergarten program for all LEP students (bilingual and ESL) not just bilingual and K-Plus students.
- ESL will be in addition to rather than in place of language arts in grades 4 and 5 at the Intermediate School.
- New block schedule at Elementary will allow daily ESL support in grades 1-3.

Response to Intervention (RtI): Tier I and Tier II

Steve Thomas conducted data meetings with reading specialists to identify students for reading interventions in grades 1-3.

We hope to have three Tier II interventions in place per grade next year: Reading Recovery, Bridges, ReadAbout (software), Lexia (software), My Reading Coach (expansion of existing licenses), and small group work with reading specialists.

In addition, the math specialists are adding Fast Math (software) and Do the Math to their Tier II interventions. They are already using Math Perspectives.

HUMAN RESOURCES – submitted by Kim Burke, Director of Human Resources

GOING WELL:

Notification of Assignment (Educational Support Staff) – The Collective Bargaining Agreement Article II, Paragraph R states “Effective 2004-2005, the Board shall by August 1 of each school year notify each non-twelve month employee in writing of his/her proposed work assignment for the coming year.” This week letters will be mailed to Educational Support Staff to notify them of their assignment for the 2009-2010 school year.

New Staff Paperwork Processing – We have held one session with 13 new teachers and one session for 4 newly hired support staff to review employment paperwork. We have two sessions remaining that will occur on August 3rd and 6th for 8 new teachers and 3 new support staff.

End of the Year Salary Update – This month we began updating salaries for the end of the year salary update to the Teacher’s Service Record for the ISBE. The original due date was July 15th, however the ISBE revised the deadline to August 15th.

OPERATIONS & FACILITIES – submitted by Don Selzer, Director of Operations & Facilities

GOING WELL:

- O&F staff returned all items sent to Middle School for Summer Wonders/ESY back to their respective buildings.
- O&F staff is continuing with the deep cleaning, painting and maintenance in the buildings/grounds.
- The Elementary East playground installation has been completed and O&F staff provided assistance for the dedication ceremony July 25, 2009.
- The two adjustable basketball backboards for Elementary West Gym A have been installed.
- The heat trace installation project at South Campus is in progress.
- The sewer upgrades for Primary have been completed.
- The concrete/sidewalk replacement throughout the District has been completed.
- The Middle School new gym locker installation has been completed.
- Breaks in the wires at the Elementary East parking lot lights have been located and repaired.

- The Middle School asphalt/seal coating project is in progress.
- The Elementary casework installation is in progress.
- The Middle School cafeteria noise abatement project is in progress.
- Preparations for Proof of Residency at the Middle School are in progress.
- The O&F staff set up and monitored 20 after-school or non-school events for the month of July.
- The District's public service program realized 801 hours of work for the month of July. The work accomplished consisted of: mowing all District properties, turning over playground mulch, assisting with the landscaping of Elementary East playground, various grounds tasks throughout the District, trash pick up throughout the District and vehicle cleaning/inspections as weather allowed.

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES – submitted by Penny Dagley, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services

GOING WELL:

- Summer school ended on Friday, July 24, 2009. We had another successful year and Deb Pelletiere did an excellent job in her first year as the Director. As we have done for the past several years, we will conduct follow-up meetings with Operations and Facilities, Technology and Transportation to review how the program ran from their perspective.
- We are once again hosting a week-long Autism training that will start on Monday, August 3, 2009. Providing this highly structured training to our staff is a critical component of our program in order to ensure that all staff are properly trained to appropriately meet the needs of our students with autism.
- The application process for ARRA funds was just released by the State Board on July 27, 2009. SEDOL will provide training on how to complete the grant on July 30, 2009.

AWARENESS ITEMS:

- We are interviewing speech and language pathology and occupational therapy candidates as they apply to hopefully continue to reduce the number of contractual staff.

TECHNOLOGY – submitted by Dann Giesey, Director of Transportation

- 2009 Summer Projects:
 - Server rationalization project has been completed. During the past few weeks we were able to successfully rebuild and reformat 13 servers and reallocate and relocate 7 servers. In addition we were able to retire 15 servers to our parts inventory. Key highlights from the project:

- We created a test environment for future project deployments
- We upgraded to the apple server operating system 10.5
- We backed up and transferred 3.5 TB of data
- Cleaned up invalid user accounts and data
- Archived unnecessary data
- Created campus based server solutions for speed and security
- Standardized the naming conventions for all servers
- Setup management software to distribute computer images
- Enabled redundancy and data storage protection for all servers
- Validated and updated proper security for all files and folders

Now that the server environment has been cleaned up we can start to gather data and capacity planning information so I will be able to present a long-term server strategic plan to the board next year.

- We have completed implementation of Anti-virus software to all district computers and servers.
- The old library software and servers have been backed up and archived and the servers have been decommissioned.
- All computers across the district have been patched and received operating system updates including MS Office. There are a few user software updates needed at various schools but we expect to be completed by the start of school.

TRANSPORTATION – submitted by Roberta Magera, Director of Transportation

ONGOING:

- We have interviewed candidates with credentials and those who would require training for bus driving and have hired one driver who has her CDL and permit.
- We will also welcome back another driver who had to leave us last April and is now able to return.
- We are currently training one driver who should be through the training course by the start of the new school year.
- We have one driver currently out on medical leave and anticipate her return in August.
- During July we have concentrated on reviewing all of the routes and updating stop locations using the guidelines established this past year. Many stops were analyzed to ensure that no student will have to walk further than the distance established for the age group and that no stop is at hazardous location.
- We have ordered and received a new training course that will be incorporated into our new driver program and also used during our safety meetings for the experienced drivers during the course of the year.

- At the end of last year Penny, Jenny and I met with several driver representatives in order to address student discipline on the buses. As a result of that meeting, we have adjusted the transportation rubric in the parent/student handbook to be more in line with the building rubrics. We will also schedule an optional class for the drivers prior to the start of school so they may become aware of PBIS and how they can work with this program. It is our goal to provide the drivers with additional resources and tools to use in coping with student behavior issues.